5

5N. 08/146,90)

A SYSTEM, METHOD AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE FOR SELECTING A GATEWAY OF A HYBRID COMMUNICATION SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

ABSTRACT

Telephone calls, data and other multimedia information is routed through a hybrid network which includes transfer of information across the internet utilizing telephony routing information and internet protocol address information. A media order entry captures complete user profile information for a user. This profile information is utilized by the system throughout the media experience for routing, billing, monitoring, reporting and other media control functions. Users can manage more aspects of a network than previously possible, and control network activities from a central site. A directory service that supports a hybrid communication system architecture is provided for routing traffic over the hybrid network and the internet and selecting a network proximal to the origination of the call.